

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (New) An interactive storybook comprising:
an outer housing defining a story module retaining portion;
a first story module disposed within said story module retaining portion, said first story module corresponding to a first portion of a story;
a second story module disposed within said story module retaining portion, said second story module corresponding to a second portion of said story, wherein:
 said first story module comprises a first stage surface and a first background surface,
 said first stage surface is configured for supporting one or more props for use in acting out said first portion of said story,
 said second story module comprises a second stage surface and a second background surface, and
 said second stage surface is configured for supporting one or more props for use in acting out said second portion of said story.
3. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:
said first background surface comprises the text of said first portion of said story; and
said second background surface comprises the text of said second portion of said story.

4. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 3, wherein:

 said first and second background surfaces each comprise a visual display;

 said first stage surface and said first background surface cooperate to form a background and stage setting that is adapted for allowing users to use props to act out said first portion of said story; and

 said second stage surface and said second background surface cooperate to form a background and stage setting that is adapted for allowing users to use props to act out said second portion of said story.

5. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:

 said first story module comprises one or more props for use in acting out said first portion of said story; and

 said second story module comprises one or more props for use in acting out said second portion of said story.

6. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:

 said first story module comprises a first set of one or more props for use in acting out said first portion of said story;

 said first story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which said first story module substantially obstructs access to said first set of props, and (2) an open position, in which said first story module does not substantially obstruct access to said first set of props;

 said second story module comprises a second set of one or more props for use in acting out said second portion of said story; and

 said second story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which said second story module substantially obstructs access to said second set of props, and (2) an open position, in which said second story module does not substantially obstruct access to said second set of props.

7. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:
said first story module comprises a first plurality of interior surfaces;
said first story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which each of said first plurality of interior surfaces is obstructed from view and (2) an open position, in which said first plurality of interior surfaces is not obstructed from view;
said second story module comprises a second plurality of interior surfaces; and
said second story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which each of said second plurality of interior surfaces is obstructed from view and (2) an open position, in which said second plurality of interior surfaces is not obstructed from view.

8. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 7, wherein:

said first story module comprises:

a first exterior surface, and

a first exterior indicia disposed on said first exterior surface, said first exterior indicia indicating that said first story module corresponds to said first portion of said story; and

said second story module comprises:

a second exterior surface, and

a second exterior indicia disposed on said second exterior surface, said second exterior indicia indicating that said second story module corresponds to said second portion of said story.

9. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 7, wherein said first story module is configured so that when said first story module is in said closed position, said first story module is substantially in the form of a cube.

10. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:
said first story module comprises a first plurality of interior surfaces;
said first story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which
each of said first plurality of interior surfaces is entirely obstructed from view, and (2) an open
position, in which said first plurality of interior surfaces is not obstructed from view;
said second story module comprises a second plurality of interior surfaces; and
said second story module is adapted to be moved between: (1) a closed position, in which
each of said second plurality of interior surfaces is entirely obstructed from view, and (2) an
open position, in which said second plurality of interior surfaces is not obstructed from view.

11. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein:

 said storybook module retaining portion comprises a first individual compartment that is dimensioned to receive said first story module and to substantially conform to an outer surface of said first story module.

12. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 2, wherein said first story module comprises:

 a central background panel; and

 a stage panel attached adjacent a bottom edge of said central background panel.

13. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 12, wherein an angle formed between said central background panel and said stage panel is approximately 90 degrees.

14. (New) The interactive storybook panel of Claim 13, wherein said first story module comprises:

 a first side background panel that is attached adjacent a first side edge of said central background panel; and

 a second side background panel that is attached adjacent a second side edge of said central background panel.

15. (New) The interactive storybook panel of Claim 13, wherein said first story module comprises:

 a first side background panel that is attached adjacent a first side edge of said background panel via a hinge mechanism; and

 a second side background panel that is attached adjacent a second side edge of said background panel via a hinge mechanism.

16. (New) The interactive storybook panel of Claim 12, wherein said first story module comprises:

a first side background panel that is attached adjacent a first side edge of said background panel; and

a second side background panel that is attached adjacent a second side edge of said background panel.

17. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 16, wherein said first story module is configured to be moved into a closed position in which said first story module is substantially in the form of a cube.

18. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 17, wherein said first story module is configured to be moved into an open position in which said first story module comprises a substantially planer T-shaped array of panels.

19. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 18, wherein, when said first story module is in said open position, said first story module comprises a stage panel that extends outwardly from a top center portion of said T-shaped array of panels.

20. (New) An interactive storybook comprising:

a first story module, said first story module corresponding to a first portion of a story; and

a second story module, said second story module corresponding to a second portion of said story, wherein:

said first story module comprises a first stage surface and a first background surface;

said first stage surface is configured for supporting one or more props for use in acting out said first portion of said story;

said first background surface comprises the text of said first portion of said story;

said second story module comprises a second stage surface and a second background surface;

said second stage surface is configured for supporting one or more props for use in acting out said second portion of said story; and

said second background surface comprises a visual display that corresponds to said second portion of said story.

21. (New) The interactive storybook of Claim 20, wherein:

said first and second background surfaces each comprise a visual display;

said first stage surface and said first background surface cooperate to form a background and stage setting that is adapted for allowing users to use props to act out said first portion of said story; and

said second stage surface and said second background surface cooperate to form a background and stage setting that is adapted for allowing users to use props to act out said second portion of said story.